

P-14: Tobacco Free Parks

Venue: Community

Goal: Eliminating Exposure to Secondhand Smoke

Sponsoring Organization: Snohomish Health District

Abstract: The Snohomish Health District and Marysville Parks and Recreation Department joined efforts last fall to launch a tobacco free policy for the seventeen public parks throughout the city of Marysville. The Snohomish Health District assisted the Marysville Parks Board with the tobacco free proclamation, writing media releases, planning a kick off ceremony, and purchasing signs and other education materials to promote the new policy. The created signs state, “For Our Kids, Tobacco Free Parks”. Over 75 community members, including Marysville Parks Board members, police officers, students, and policy makers attended the kick off celebration. Marysville students will be distributing seat cushions, balloons and information about the dangers of secondhand smoke at various winter and spring events to educate the community about the new policy.

Recommendations: Make use of different partners, including schools, and groups that frequent parks, such as sports leagues, to provide resources and show policy makers that the project has community support. Know which groups in your area have jurisdiction over parks and approach the ones open to the idea. Be prepared to back up your request with supportive evidence and examples of other successful smoke free park programs.

Contact for more information:

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